

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1114

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH

SUBJECT: STUDY OF U.S. POLICY INTERESTS IN THE PACIFIC AREA  
AND ASSOCIATED TRAVEL PLANS

REF: A) STATE 42887; B) BANGKOK 3188; AND C) STATE 044054

1. THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME CONFUSION IN COMMUNICATIONS  
REGARDING MY RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO CONDUCT REFERENCED  
STUDY AND MY PROPOSAL TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES AND  
SAIGON TO DISCUSS MILITARY COMMAND STRUCTURES AND POLI-  
TICAL/MILITARY MATTERS.

2. IN BANGKOK 2712 I INDICATED I WOULD BE  
LEAVING THAILAND IN THE MIDDLE OF MARCH. THIS WAS  
APPROVED IN STATE 038496. A TIGHT DEPARTURE SCHEDULE HAS  
BEEN ARRANGED ON THAT BASIS.

3. REFTTEL B PROPOSED TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINES AND SOUTH  
VIETNAM ON MARCH 6, 7 AND 8 TO DISCUSS FUTURE MILITARY  
COMMAND STRUCTURES AND POLITICAL/MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS  
IN THIS AREA. AS INDICATED IN REFTTEL, AIR SUPPORT COULD  
BE MADE AVAILABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER MILITARY  
MISSIONS BEING PERFORMED IN THE AREA, AND THEREFORE A  
TRIP BY MYSELF AND TWO STAFF MEMBERS WOULD BE OF NO  
ADDITIONAL COST TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. THIS  
TRIP, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR SOME TIME,  
WOULD ASSIST US IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS REQUESTED  
IN STATE'S 038574, AS WELL AS BE OF USE TO THE STUDY.

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4. I WAS AWAITING APPROVAL OF BANGKOK 3188 BEFORE SUBMITTING FOR YOUR APPROVAL MY TRAVEL PLANS FOR RETURNING TO WASHINGTON.

5. I AM QUITE FAMILIAR WITH THE NORTHERN PACIFIC AREA, HAVING SERVED IN THE KOREAN WAR IN 1953 AND HAVE VISITED MOST OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE PACIFIC NORTH OF THE EQUATOR A NUMBER OF TIMES. HOWEVER, I HAVE NEVER VISITED THE SOUTH PACIFIC. CONSEQUENTLY, IN ORDER TO BETTER PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE PROPOSED STUDY, I WOULD LIKE TO, ON MY RETURN TO WASHINGTON, VISIT JAKARTA, PORT MORESBY, CANBERRA, WELLINGTON AND CINCPAC IN HONOLULU. I HAVE NOT YET WORKED OUT A SPECIFIC SCHEDULE, BUT I ASSUME I WILL BE BACK IN MAINLAND USA AROUND THE 31ST OF MARCH. I PLAN TO THEN TAKE A WEEK'S LEAVE AND WILL REPORT IN TO YOU ON THE 7TH OR 8TH OF APRIL.

6. IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE MY TIME EN ROUTE TO THE STATES AND IMPOSE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE ON MISSIONS I WISH TO VISIT FOR TALKS WITH THE AMBASSADORS, I INTEND TO SEND MRS. KINTNER BACK THROUGH EUROPE SO SHE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT OUR DAUGHTER IN BRUSSELS EN ROUTE.

7. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED STUDY WHEN I RETURN TO WASHINGTON AND TO MEETING WITH OTHER EA AMBASSADORS AS THEY RETURN TO WASHINGTON IN THE SPRING.

8. I REGRET THAT I WILL BE UNABLE TO SEE AMBASSADOR MARTIN, BUT HE HAS INFORMED ME IN SAIGON 1973 THAT HIS DCM AND STAFF WILL VERY MUCH WELCOME OUR VISIT.

9. I TRUST THAT THIS MESSAGE CLARIFIES OUR SEVERAL COMMUNICATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT AND REQUEST APPROVAL OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINES AND SOUTH VIETNAM.  
KINTNER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O - MR. HOGANSON.  
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